

Remarks/Arguments

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, the Applicant elect Claim 1-6 (Species 1) drawn to FIGS 3A to 3G **with Traverse**.

Under MPEP 806.04(f) a species election requirement *is improper* if the species are not mutually exclusive from each other. The test under the MPEP is whether "one claim recites limitations which under the disclosure are found in a first species but not in a second, while a second claim recites limitations disclosed only for the second species and not the first."

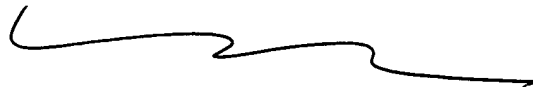
It is the Applicants' position that the embodiment shown in FIGS 3A-3G and FIGS. 5A-5F are not mutually exclusive from each other. In addition, the Applicants contend that claim 1 *is generic* to both the species of FIGS. 3A-3G and FIGS. 5A-5F. For example, the scope of claim 7 is narrower than the scope of claim 1. In other words, claim 1 reads on the embodiment of FIGS. 5A-5F.

Conclusion

The Applicants respectfully request for the Examiner to withdraw the species election requirement, and examine all the claims (1-12) on their merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Volentine Francos & Whitt, PLLC



Linus Y. Park
Reg. No. 45,261

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One Freedom Square
Suite 1260
11951 Freedom Drive
Reston, VA 20190
Tel. (571) 283-0720
Fax (571) 283-0740